NPIC/TSSG/DED-1448-68
5 December 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Trip Report - Corning Glass Works

1. On Thursday, 14 November 1968, [redacted] of The Boeing Company, [redacted] and I attended a conference at the Electronic Research Laboratory of Corning Glass Works, 3800 Electronics Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina 27602. Corning personnel attending this meeting were: [redacted] Director, Electronic Research Laboratory; [redacted] Manager, Product Planning; [redacted] Manager, Electro-Optics Department and [redacted] Optical Physicist. The primary purpose of this meeting was to review the past efforts toward development of an Improved Rear Projection Screen and determine the best course of action for the future. A secondary purpose was the furnishing of additional human factors information by [redacted]

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2. [redacted] presented a review of Corning's efforts under the previous contract together with a description of the proposed lenticular screen approach and its inherent high cost if produced in a large size (possibly a multi-thousand dollar price for a 30" X 30" size).

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3. A thorough descussion of the project was then conducted with inputs by all present. Resulting was the formulation of a "Best Course-of-Action". This consisted basically of three elements:

a. Corning will make 12" X 15" samples of two or three of the best 'discreet particle' screens developed under the previous contract, including variations of each screen, i.e., with and without anti-reflection coating, with and without substrate darkening, etc. These samples will then be used in a subjective test program at NPIC, to be conducted under the Imagery Exploitation Research Program. A target production schedule of three months was set for these screens (approximate delivery date to NPIC -- 15 February 1969).

b. Concurrent with and subsequent to delivery of the sample screens, Corning will pursue development of a lenticular screen. This screen will be constructed to as large dimensions as practicable but in no case will it be less than 4" X 4". Subjective tests will also be conducted at NPIC using this screen.

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c. Based on the subjective tests of the sample discreet particle screens as described in Paragraph 3a above, a selection of the best screen for production in a 30" X 30" size will be made. It is anticipated that this screen will have characteristics superior to those of any screen presently available commercially. However, production of this 30" X 30" screen will be held in abeyance pending a determination of the feasibility of developing a lenticular screen having still better characteristics. During the development of the lenticular screen, Corning will monitor the funds available under the present contract and will advise us when only sufficient funds remain to produce the 30" X 30" screen mentioned above. At that time, we will decide whether to accept the 30" X 30" screen or use the remaining funds on the continued development of a lenticular screen.

4. Relative to this latter decision, it should be noted that a change in the contract will be necessary if we elect not to accept the 30" X 30" screen. Too, if we allow Corning to proceed with the development of the lenticular screen and a superior product is realized, it will probably only be a small size (4" X 4") sample. Construction of a 30" X 30" screen may necessitate negotiation of a follow-on contract.

5. To assist the Corning personnel in their efforts, Copy #35 of the "Human Factors Handbook" was left with [redacted] on temporary (30 day) loan. 25X1

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